

Die Martis 11. Ian. 1647.

THe house being informed that divers principall Officers of the Army were at the door they were called in, and Sir *Hardresse Waller*, acquainted the House that the Generall had commanded 7 Colonels of them, with other Officers of rank and quality in the name of the whole Army, to make their humble addresse to this House, They have represented their intentions in writing in that which is called a Declaration, and they doe refer it, That it shall either have name or life, and be exposed to view, according as it shall receive approbation and direction from this House.

The Officers being withdrawn, the Paper delivered in by the said Officers, was read, and was stiled, *A Declaration from his Excellency Sir Thomas Fairfax, and the Generall Councell of the Army*, of their resolutions to the Parliament in their proceedings concerning the King, and signified at the latter end, That it was resolved in the affirmative, at the Generall Councell of the Army at Winsor, Jan. 9. 1647. *Nemine contradicente.*

Resolved, &c. That this Declaration be now read the second time.

Resolved, &c. That this House doth approve of this Declaration, and doth order, that the thankes of this House be returned to the Generall and Army for it.

Resolved &c. That this Declaration be forthwith printed and published by Order of this House.

The Officers were again called in, and Mr. Speaker by the command of the House, gave them the hearty thanks of this House for this so seasonable Declaration, and by them to the Generall and whole Army, and acquainted them, that the House doth very wel approve of it, and have Ordered it to be forthwith printed and Published.

Hen. Elsing, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

FINIS.

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FINIS.

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True News from

SCOTLAND;
IN A
LETTER,

Communicated from *Edenborough,*
to a Friend in *London,*

Touching the state of things there,
March 14. 1647.



Printed in the Yeere, 1647.

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Sir,



Ours of the seventh instant, I received, whereby any man may easily perceive your great and sad perplexities in regard of the present distractions, which trouble you the more, because you seeme to be destitute of advice which way to turne , should a new warre (as is justly feared) breake forth. Sir, though otherwise conscientious of my owne wants, I cannot dictate to you any certaine Rules of direction ; yet my present thoughts of the state of things heere, shall not be wanting to you: For mine owne and others satisfaction, my stay in these parts hath beene somewhat curiously imployed to search out mysteries, and all that can be discovered yet, is , that 'tis evident the Grandees who sit at sterne, have fixed their resolution to engage your Independent Party in a new warre ; in prosecution whereof their whole endeavour now is, to purge out, or quell at least the same side in both Houses heere: which once effected , the next designe seemes to be some attempt upon the Army with you, to try whether by jealousies and discontents they can make a Division, and so bring it to a confusion, or else by free-quarter, impositions, or other oppressing meanes , to provoke the long enslaved people to cast off their yoke , and once more stand up for liberty : For this purpose upon specious pretences they seeme to comply with Malignants, till

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they

they can get strength enough to settle their Presbyteriall government, in its full careere and tyranny ; but what ever the colour is , be assured there is nothing lesse intended , then to take in the Kings party , for feare lest once engaged , they should be able to curbe the Presbytery : Nor are encouragements wanting for bringing about their ends , as long as that Party doth stil prevaile at Westminster, or there be hearts or money ready in the City to invire them in. To which you may adde the design of those that have obtained leave (as we heare) to retire into their severall Counties, especially the Northern, wher they sleep not supinely; but upō every occasion animate the people in all possible arguments, now if ever to regaine their freedome by lending assistance to their dear, and deeply engag'd B ethuen : to which no small advantage the Northern Presbyters afford them, especially about *York*, where at this day upon all sorts of people (as the report goes) the Covenant is engag'd , and all manner of motives used for a brotherly assistance, if they hope to be free'd from an Independent slavery ; and which is worse, an inundation of all manner of Sects and Heresies. Wee are told likewise, the two Houses of late have beene very solicitous to disband those *York shire* Regiments, which were any whit inclined to Presbytery, whereby the discontented Souldery (whose Religion is their money) being unsatisfied for arreares , are ready upon the least opportunity to engage against the Parliament, and in all likelyhood are very active to draw in their fellow-Souldiers to their Party , that so both in due time may be fully revenged upon those ingratefull Masters. In my opinion it had been more wisdom in
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in our Grandees, by sending downe some well gifted Emissaries, who in all popular Auditories, might have possessed the Pulpits, and refuted those rigid Presbyterian Tenents; so to have reclaimed the Northerne people from this dangerous recidivation, rather then so inconsiderately to have cashiered part of their Army, and so put them into a condition to doe themselves a mischief when time serves. Most certaine it is, some Parliament men of those parts, who dayly vote at *Westminster* against the Presbyterian Party, have notwithstanding their Agents heere at *Edenborough* transacting their designes with the Scots, and to my knowledge, *H. D. H. C. and R. D.* have given assurance to desert the Houses so soone as they receive certaine intelligence of the Scots advance upon English ground; by these particulars you may easily conjecture wherein our *Sampsons* strength lyes.

That the Scots will not engage the Kings Party in this their designe, is more then probable, not onely because they have retuled the Marquesse of *Montrose* his employment in their Army; but also because they are still pressing that Party to take the Nationall Covenant, or forthwith to depart the Kingdome. I can assure you, in Spaine under the Inquisition, or at Constantinople under the great Turke, you may enjoy liberty of conscience, sooner then now in Scotland under the Presbytery; for from all sorts of men an absolute, necessary and unlimited obedience is required, the conformity of the outward man being not satisfactory, without the approbation of Will and Judgement; you must be constrained to take all sorts of Oathes that are imposed without disputing the lawfull-

nesse of them : Therefore in my opinion ; you had
 better forbear comming hither as yet , if you desire
 freedome , and the enjoyment of a good conscience,
 which you have hitherto so carefully preserved ; for
 in that respect it is much more safe to live at Rome , or
 Constantinople, for exercise of the Reformed Religi-
 on , then it is in Scotland , under the tyranny of the
 Scots Presbytery, which in England is yet but an Em-
 brio, or at most but an Infant of few dayes old, in com-
 parison of the full strength it hath attained to heere,
 ruling in a most rigid and imperious way, judging all,
 being judged of none ; and since from the Assembly
 no appeale lyes either to King or Parliament, you can-
 not beleieve how insolent every Minister is growne,
 presuming to Lord it over us ; so that if no of their
 opinion , though otherwise never so unblameable in
 life, presently you shall be defamed openly in the Pul-
 pit by name, and debarred from the comfortable com-
 munion of Christs body and blood : Reade but their
 last Declaration of March the first, and you may soone
 judge of what spirit those men are. For other affaires
 I can give you no satisfactory account ; the Parlia-
 ment as yet having done little or nothing in the maine
 businesse, save onely the purging of their House, and
 setting the due elections of their Members, as also ap-
 poynting a Committee to draw up a Declaration for
 justifying their Commissioners carriage in England,
 and to prepare an answer to the late Declaration of the
 Parliament at Westminster, and touching the proceed-
 ings of the Army. Thus Sir , having given you a
 true representation of the state of things heere, I shall
 leave you to the Conduct of your owne prudence,
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and God Almightyes providence , for the future blessing
of your course; and remains ever,

Edenborough
14. March 1647.

Sir, Your most affectionate and
faithfull Servants.

FINIS.
